NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

Information Letter

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Navy Department Asks Bids on Canned Tomatoes

The Navy Department is asking for bids on canned tomatoes, to be opened September 23, 160,000 pounds for delivery at Boston, 615,000 pounds at Brooklyn, 195,000 pounds at Philadelphia, 970,000 pounds at Hampton Roads, 515,000 pounds at Mare Island and 715,000 pounds at Bremerton. Copies of schedule 3808 on which to submit bids may be obtained from the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Weather Conditions

Weather conditions during the week ended August 6 not only intensified the severe drought that has prevailed for a long time over the central and eastern portions of the United States, but some sections not heretofore seriously affected are becoming alarmingly dry according to the U. S. Weather Bureau.

A few local areas were benefited by showers during the week, principally in the north central portion of the country and in some central Gulf districts, and beneficial rains continued in the Rocky Mountain area and South Atlantic States from North Carolina southward, but otherwise there was little or no relief, and high temperatures aggravated the extremely unfavorable conditions.

While the drought is now general practically everywhere east of the Rocky Mountains, except parts of the Southeast and locally elsewhere, and all growing vegetation is seriously affected, the most outstanding damage has occurred to the corn crop. Pastures would quickly revive with abundant moisture, but much corn and late truck are beyond recovery, even with generous rains soon.

The scope of the general crop report to be issued August 11 by the Department of Agriculture describing conditions and estimating crops as of August 1 will be extended to include a summary of conditions after August 1, with an analysis of the effects of the drought.

Forecast of Tomatoes for Manufacture

Though the 1930 estimate of acreage of tomatoes for canning or manufacture is 22 per cent larger than that of 1929, the forecast of production, based upon the condition of the crop on August 1, is only 5 per cent above the 1929 production. The indicated yield per acre is 14 percent below the yield last year and 5 per cent below the average yield during the five-year period, 1925-1929.

State	Acreage		Production	
	1929	1930	1929	1930
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
New York	13,600	15,300	85,680	100,750
New Jersey	33,000	40,000	214,500	220,000
Pennsylvania	5,420	4,280	18,630	15,840
Ohio	10,950	13,000	52,560	60,240
Indiana	39,840	61,380	251,330	276,690
Illinois	3,440	6,310	20,670	25,240
Michigan	1,990	2,410	8,960	10,120
Iowa	4,570	6,400	25,140	21,760
Missouri	20,540	28,000	60,730	52,020
Delaware	13,500	14,180	68,850	53,888
Maryland	27,500	28,880	140,250	102,970
Virginia	6,840	7,390	25,990	20,690
Kentucky	6,820	8,930	26,600	24,110
Tennessee	9,200	11,500	23,000	25,300
Arkansas	22,000	29,380	61,020	58,760
Colorado	1,020	2,210	16,700	16,800
Utah	6,180	7,720	56,540	62,300
California	41,880	44,210*	238,420	231,610
Other states a	4,480	6,050	15,230	16,150
U. S. total	294,470	359,410	1,456,170	1,499,430

*Revised.

a Other states include Alabama, Connecticut, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

The reported condition of the crop as of August 1, is about 11 points lower than the July 15 condition, 8 points below the condition on August 1 a year ago, and is 5 points less than the 10-year average condition on August 1 for the period 1920-1929. New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Colorado and California are the only States in which the growing conditions equal or exceed the 10-year averages.

The most severe damage from drouth and hot weather is reported from Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia. Much of this area has received no rainfall during July, and temperatures have been excessively high. Many canners predict complete failure of the crop unless rain comes soon. Similar conditions have prevailed in the Southern portions of

Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, and in Central Michigan. Continued hot weather and deficient moisture in the Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania areas have resulted in a drop of 5 to 11 points in condition during the latter half of July. The crop in Northern Utah has suffered severely from disease and hot weather.

The forecast of 1,499,400 tons, as of August 1, assumes full allowance for the ultimate effect of drouth, heat, etc. to that date. August 1, prospects may, therefore, be altered by later unusual developments, either favorable or unfavorable.

Canning Snap Bean Forecast

On an acreage which is estimated as nearly 17 per cent larger than that of last year, the forecast of production of snap beans for canning or manufacture in 1930, is slightly less than the estimated production in 1929. Production is now estimated at 90,020 tons compared with 90,430 tons last year. On July 15 the production forecast for this season was 103,560 tons. The indicated yield per acre is 14 per cent less than the low yield of 1929 and is only three-fourths of the average yield during the five-year period, 1925-1929.

State	Acreage		Production	
	1929	1930	1929	1930
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
Maine	1,800	1,420	2,730	2,630
New York	9,800	11,270	14,700	15,030
Pennsylvania	2,720	2,350	3,810	3,350
Indiana	3,500	3,710	3,500	2,970
Michigan	5,300	5,990	4,770	5,990
Wisconsin	7,400	8,580	9,620	11,130
Delaware	2,040	2,350	2,650	2,040
Maryland	8,400	9,740	14,280	8,770
South Carolina	870	930	1,300	1,090
Tennessee	2,000	2,400	2,400	2,160
Mississippi	1,800	2,640	1,800	2,640
Arkansas	2,240	2,510	2,460	1,510
Louisiana	2,280	2,280	2,280	2,630
Colorado	2,800	2,020	6,900	5,020
Utah	1,280	1,520	2,560	3,800
Washington	820	940	2,460	3,100
Oregon	850	880	2,720	2,820
California	750	810	3,000	3,240
Other states a	5,300	6,630	6,360	5,970
U. S. total	61,090	71,150	90,430	90,020

a Other states include Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming.

The continued drouth and high temperature during the latter half of July have caused material reductions in yield prospects in Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Michigan, Arkansas and Tennessee. With July precipitation in these areas ranging from zero to 50 per cent of normal, and with temperatures averaging from 2 to 6 degrees above normal, the crop has

continued to deteriorate during July. Growing conditions in New York, Maine, Wisconsin and the Far Western States have continued comparatively favorable, and have offset to some extent the drastic reductions in the drouth stricken areas.

The forecast of 90,020 tons, as of August 1, assumes full allowance for the ultimate effect of drouth, heat, etc. to that date. August 1 prospects may, therefore, be altered by later usual developments, either favorable or unfavorable.

Hawaii Anticipates Big Pineapple Pack

A pineapple pack of 10,000,000 cases for the current season in Hawaii seems assured, according to a radiogram from the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce. Honolulu canneries are reported working on a day and night schedule and employing 8,000 workers, while those at Kauai and Maui are employing about 4,000.

Forecast of Canning Corn Crop

The 1930 forecast of production of sweet corn for canning or manufacture, based upon the condition of the crop on August 1, is 9 per cent below the estimated production in 1929, and is about 10 per cent less than the average production for the 5-year period 1925-1929.

The forecast of 641,200 tons, as of August 1 assumes full allowance for the ultimate effect of drouth, heat, etc. to that date. August 1 prospects may, therefore, be altered by later unusual developments, either favorable or unfavorable.

On an estimated planted acreage about 11 per cent larger than that grown in 1929, the indicated yield is 18 per cent below that of last year, and is 26 per cent below the five-year average yield during the period 1925-1929.

The August 1 condition of the crop is more than 17 points below the condition on July 15. It is 12 points lower than the condition on August 1 a year ago, and is about 11 points below the 10-year average condition on August 1 for the period 1920-1929.

The most pronounced decreases in condition have occurred in the drouth stricken areas of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska and Tennessee. Many fields in Maryland, Pennsylvania, southern Ohio and Indiana will be a near or complete failure. Minnesota reports comparatively favorable conditions, but the crop in the central part

of the State is hurt by the extreme heat and dry weather. Conditions in Wisconsin are also favorable except for some damage on light sandy soil in the northeastern section. Growing conditions in the New England States and New York were also above the average on August 1.

SWEET CORN

	Acreage		Production	
	1929	1930	1929	1930
	Acres	*Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*
Maine	14,850	13,550	46,000	46,100
New Hampshire	1,320	1,110	3,300	2,800
Vermont	2,770	2,350	6,200	5,600
New York	24,600	27,060	36,900	51,400
Pennsylvania	6,000	6,000	6,000	4,800
Ohio	31,000	34,410	62,000	31,000
Indiana	38,500	42,280	50,000	48,700
Illinois	64,000	72,320	154,400	122,900
Michigan	6,400	10,300	6,400	14,400
Wisconsin	11,600	13,340	24,400	24,000
Minnesota	43,900	52,680	105,400	110,600
Iowa	52,000	54,600	130,000	103,700
Nebraska	5,740	7,400	10,900	13,300
Delaware	3,000	3,700	5,800	6,200
Maryland	44,000	46,200	61,600	41,600
Tennessee	3,400	3,400	6,800	6,100
Other states *a*	3,250	4,160	7,500	7,900
U. S. total	357,230	396,860	703,600	641,200

a Other states include Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Official Copy of Labeling Law

With this issue of the Information Letter is mailed an official copy of the labeling law (Public—No. 538—71st Congress). It is suggested that members place this copy of the law in their permanent files for future reference.

Field Laboratory Now in Illinois

The Bacteriological Field Laboratory is now located at the Rochelle, Illinois, factory of the Midwest Canning Corporation. It is intended to work in the Northern Illinois territory as soon as the corn pack opens, and following that, to locate at Bloomington, Illinois. It is estimated that the laboratory will be at this second location until the latter part of August.

It is suggested that any canners in these sections having sterility or spoilage problems get in touch with the laboratory.

Truck Crop Markets

Droughty conditions and high temperatures were still unrelieved in most parts of the country, according to the Market News Service report for the week ended August 2. Vegetable crops were being seriously affected. Some damage to fruits also was reported.

With the near-closing of the southeastern pack movement, supplies may be rather limited from California, until States

farther north begin furnishing considerable quantities of peaches. California last week originated more than half the total shipments, which averaged almost 900 cars daily. A good part of the California movement, however, was to canneries.

Apple shipments dropped further to 580 cars for the week, about two coming from the West to every car from the East. Most important sources of supply were northern California, Illinois, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and the Virginias.

The pear season was just beginning in New York State. Washington increased to 50 cars for the week, but California furnished 1,370, making total forwardings of 1,465 cars.

Movement of plums and prunes, almost exclusively from California totaled 355 cars, compared with 120 a year ago. Southern California shipped 805 cars of oranges, or about 45 per cent fewer than during early August of 1929. Lemon movement was 470 cars.

Green peas were coming mainly from New York, Washington, Idaho and Colorado. Total movement averaged only 20 cars daily.

Sweet potato shipments totaled only 115 cars for the week, Alabama and Georgia furnishing most of the supply.

Cabbage was arriving chiefly from Iowa, Colorado, Illinois and New York, but the week's shipments were only 225 cars.

Tomato movement dropped to 395 cars. Ohio and Washington each furnished 70 cars, Maryland 65 and Illinois 40.

Combined shipments of 34 fruits and vegetables decreased last week to 22,860 cars, but were still 2,600 cars heavier than a year ago.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	July 27-Aug. 2 1930	July 20-26 1930	July 28-Aug. 3 1929	Total this season to Aug. 2	Total last season to Aug. 3	Total last season
Apples, total	580	751	593	3,809	2,901	102,784
Eastern states	187	305	331	2,252	2,429	51,420
Western states	393	446	262	1,556	472	51,364
Cabbage	224	176	233	16,128	22,984	44,138
Carrots	23	29	17	9,461	9,099	12,194
Cherries	45	76	86	2,305	2,221	2,290
Cucumbers	56	93	61	6,072	6,538	7,469
Green peas	142	282	268	5,456	4,155	5,197
Mixed deciduous fruit	397	392	312	2,065	1,512	5,102
Mixed vegetables	467	418	572	20,620	22,349	33,430
Peaches	5,322	5,505	5,442	16,364	14,221	33,451
Pears	1,466	1,322	1,207	4,673	2,602	21,146
Peppers	24	47	16	2,113	2,397	2,288
Plums and prunes	336	367	120	4,327	1,638	6,046
Spinach	8	14	6	9,348	9,751	10,338
String beans	30	36	24	6,683	7,364	8,627
Tomatoes	393	601	604	22,342	21,625	31,946

Examiner Submits Report in Frozen Fruit Rate Case

In the case involving rates on cold-packed or frozen fruits, in carloads, from points in Michigan to points in Official, Western and Southern Classification territories, Examiner Konisberg has submitted a report to the Interstate Commerce Commission proposing that the Commission hold the existing rates not unreasonable or unduly prejudicial and recommending that the complaint filed by the Michigan Canners Association be dismissed. The complaint sought a rating for cold-packed fruits not in excess of fifth class, or that equivalent to the rating maintained on canned fruits.

Business Conditions

Business for the week ended August 2, as measured by bank debits outside New York City, declined from the week ended July 26, and was lower than the same period in 1929, according to the Commerce Department's weekly statement.

Wholesale prices, as a whole, remained at the same level of a week ago, but were 16 per cent lower than the corresponding week of 1929.

Bank loans and discounts as reported to the Federal Reserve Board by member banks, although greater than the previous week, were below the level of the same period a year ago. Average stock prices showed no change from the week of July 26, but were lower when compared with the same period last year. Bond prices, however, registered increases over both comparative periods. Interest rates, both for short and long term loans, were the same as the preceding period, but were much lower when compared with the week of August 3, 1929.

Business failures during the last week were fewer than the week ended July 26.

Bank loans and discounts, and the prices for leading stocks and bonds recorded increases when compared with the week ended August 4, 1928, two years ago.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise L. C. L.	Other
Week ended July 19	919,349	354,925	230,986	333,438
Preceding week	928,256	330,168	233,131	335,957
Corresponding week, 1929	1,102,553	428,777	258,039	415,737
Corresponding week, 1928	1,034,326	408,710	255,296	370,320

Wholesale Grocery Trade in June

Sales of wholesale grocers reporting to the Federal Reserve System were 6 per cent smaller in June than in the correspond-

ing month a year ago. During the first six months of the current year their sales were 2 per cent smaller than during the first half of 1929. The following table shows the comparative sales, by districts:

	June, 1930 compared with July, 1929	Jan. 1—June 30, 1930 compared with Jan. 1—June 30, 1929
	Per Cent	*Per Cent*
Boston	—10	—6
New York	— 1	—1
Philadelphia	— 2	—2
Cleveland	— 8	—3
Richmond	— 4	—2
Atlanta	—15	—8
Chicago	—10	—2
St. Louis	— 8	—6
Minneapolis	— 8	—1
Kansas City	+ 1	—3
Dallas	— 9	—4
San Francisco	0	+2
Total	— 6	—2

Australia's Canned Fruit Industry

The Department of Commerce has just issued in bulletin form a survey of the fruit canning industry of Australia, made by its trade commissioner at Sydney. The bulletin treats among other subjects the development of the industry in relation to irrigation, varieties of fruit planted, yields per acre, costs of production, canning and canning costs, grading of canned fruits, and marketing organization of the industry.

Australia has developed during recent years a sizable canned fruit industry, chiefly as a result of settlement schemes on irrigated lands. The industry, however, suffers from relatively low yields per acre and high production costs, and it is probable that expansion from now on will be slow.

Australian Canned Fruit Exports

According to information furnished the Department of Commerce by the American trade commissioner at Sydney, in a report dated June 27, the Australian Canned Fruit Export Control Board advises that exports of 1930 season's canned fruits to various destinations from the beginning of the season to April 30, 1930, were as follows (figures in dozen 30-ounce tins):

	Apricots	Peaches	Pears	Totals
United Kingdom	43,490	83,342	39,660	166,492
New Zealand	5,472	17,206	185	22,863
The East	597	1,492	1,530	3,619
Canada	5,333	21,342	2,219	28,894
Others	224	311	1,059	1,594
Totals	55,116	123,693	44,653	223,662